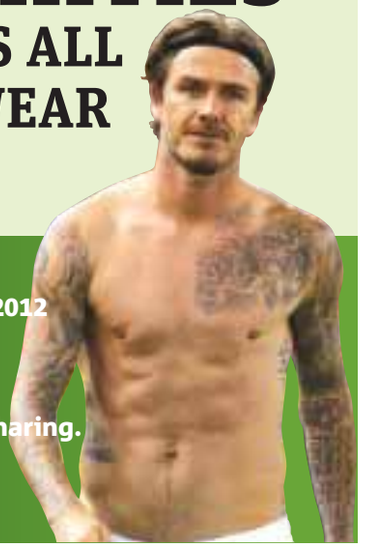
SEE WHAT'S NEW... CHECK OUT OUR LATEST OFFER ON PAGE 13
SHOPPERS DRUG MART

HOT WAX
NEW DOC LOOKS AT LONDON RECORD COLLECTORS {page 12}

TIGHTY WHITIES
BECKHAM BARES ALL FOR NEW BODYWEAR LINE STYLE {page 14}



LONDON metro®
Thursday, February 9, 2012
www.metronews.ca
News worth sharing.

High. Hoops

▶ His eyesight blurred by Fatal Vision goggles, Aidan, a London student, gets a hand from Const. Sandasha Ferguson as he lines up to shoot a basket on Wednesday during the Racing Against Drugs program at HMCS Prevost.

ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

Helping kids call the shots about drugs

A collaboration between local police and fire departments and other groups, Racing Against Drugs aims to teach fifth-graders about the dangers of drugs and alcohol through a series of hands-on educational stations. Other topics include gambling and bullying.

Ontarians are heading West: 2011 census

Both residents and immigrants going to where the jobs are, statistics show

When Ontario, once the rumbling engine of the Canadian economy, sputtered to a stop in 2008 and 2009, a lot of people walked — many of them westward, census numbers released Wednesday suggest.

For decades a beacon for new immigrants, Canada's manufacturing heartland posted population growth of just 5.7 per cent between 2006 and 2011, down from 6.6 per cent in the previous five years and the lowest growth rate since 1981-86.

Even lifelong Ontarians have pulled up stakes and headed West. Former Mississauga resident Pamela Wilson and her husband lost their jobs in 2011. Like many from eastern and central Canada, they resettled in the Alberta oilsands boomtown of Fort McMurray.

One of the reasons for the slowdown may be that immigrants are choosing to settle in Western Canada, where there are more job opportunities, said TD economist Derek Burleton. Indeed, Ontario attracted 96,000 fewer immigrants during the latest census period than in the previous five years.

"I think a good part of it is due to the fact that Ontario is facing increasing competition from other provinces for newcomers," Burleton said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Reversal of fortune

What does that mean for Ontario?

▶ **Slower population growth** usually leads to less money in government coffers and sluggish economic growth — a major change for the once-mighty province that is still struggling to recover from the 2008 recession.

More on the census {pages 3, 6 and 7}.

tea brownies sushi coffee international treats bagels jam pasta valentine wine
dinner flowers jewelry valentine restaurants chocolates giftware cards candles
valentine
candy valentine cakes dining cookies cakes roses steak bouquets rings massage
BBQ cupcakes necklace sauces strawberries pastries valentine cheese organic
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1 news

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On the web at metronews.ca

A woman in China has given birth to a 15-pound baby, possibly the largest ever born in the country. Video at metronews.ca/video

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Driver of van ran stop sign: Police

A van carrying 13 migrant workers from Peru ran a stop sign before it was broadsided by a truck and the impact killed 11 people at a rural intersection, police said Wednesday.

The van driver, David Armando Hernandez Blancas, 45, was one of the workers killed in the crash and had been in Ontario for some time. He had an Ontario driver's licence, but not the type required to drive a van of that size, police said.

"This crash did not have to happen," said Chief Supt. John Cain of Ontario Provincial Police. "Driver error is the largest contributing factor to collisions in Ontario."

The workers had just finished a shift vaccinating chickens at a nearby poultry farm.

The westbound passenger van did not stop at a stop sign at the intersection in the tiny hamlet of Hampstead. It drove into the path of a southbound freightliner.

The truck driver, Christopher Fulton, 38, from London, was killed. His employer, Speedy Transport CEO Jared Martin, said Fulton was celebrating his 11th wedding anniversary on the day of the accident.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

THE CANADIAN PRESS/HANDOUT

▶ Christopher Fulton and his wife, Teresa.

Dead-end. Jobs

▶ Former Electro-Motive Diesel employees have built a workers' graveyard outside the Oxford Street East locomotive plant. Many of the crosses in the cemetery have workers' names and the date they started working at the factory. Some bear terse messages to Caterpillar, the plant's owner.

ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

CAW heading back to bargaining table

The Canadian Auto Workers will continue hashing out details of employee severance packages on Thursday. Ontario New Democrats are calling on the provincial labour minister to form a commission charged with examining Caterpillar's actions in the wake of Friday's plant closure, according to AM980/AM980.ca.

London budget talks at crucial stage

▶ Thursday session will mark first time city service cuts are on the table
▶ Discussion starts at 2 p.m. in city hall's council chambers

ANGELA MULLINS
@METRONEWS.CA

Potential service cuts will be on the table Thursday as city councillors continue driving toward a tax freeze.

In what's expected to be the last round of talks before a Feb. 21 vote on this year's budget, members of the strategic priorities and policy committee will field a suggested "B-list" of cuts from city staff.

Councillors already have endorsed an "A-list" of cost-saving and revenue-generating measures that trimmed $2.4 million from the proposed budget.

Administrators have warned service cuts could be deep if politicians remain steadfast on not raising taxes.

"(Councillors) will have to decide what kind of community services they want," Larry Palarchio, the city's director of financial planning and policy, said this week.

Trimming needed

- The Middlesex-London Health Unit has been told to trim $396,000 from its budget proposal.
- Cuts or new revenue of about $7.1 million will be needed if the health unit's budget stays as is.

Going into the meeting, councillors are facing a budget that would increase taxes about 1.5 per cent. The original budget proposal — tabled in December — included a 2.3 per cent tax increase.

Councillors also are expected to hear a report Thursday on potential cuts to capital projects, which includes things like road improvements.

Some have shown support for delaying some work if possible.

Others have said that's only putting off the inevitable and increasing costs in the future.

Prayer for victims

A prayer service will be held Friday evening for the victims of a crash that killed 11 people near Stratford on Monday.

The non-denominational service organized by the Diocese of London is scheduled for 7 p.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Stratford.

The diocese says the service is for victims of the crash and their families, as well as to recognize emergency personnel.

Ten migrant workers in a van and a truck driver died when the truck broadsided the van Monday afternoon in Hampstead, a tiny community northeast of Stratford.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

Timeraiser calling artists

The call to artists for the third London Timeraiser is open. Local, emerging artists can sell their work to help inspire Londoners to donate their time in support of great causes.

Artwork will be displayed in the offices and boardrooms of corporate partners and in community spaces for 12 months while participants complete their pledges.

There is no submission fee; the submission deadline is March 16 at 11 p.m. The Timeraiser is a silent art auction where participants bid volunteer time. To apply, create an account at timeraiser.slideroom.com. METRO

Heads up for bad $100 bills

London police are warning businesses that there's a man using counterfeit $100 US bills on a fraud spree in the city.

The suspect has been visiting stores and buying store cards for approximate $25 to $30. He's been paying for these cards with counterfeit $100 US bills. METRO

BACK TO MY BOUDOIR

LONDON STYLE

SARAH FRANCIS
METRO LONDON

I'm not normally one to kiss and tell, but when it comes to my boudoir, I prefer things made of lace over things that lace-up. Much to my husband's chagrin, the idea of dressing up doesn't turn me on; it just makes me giggle. I find it hard to take myself seriously when I feel like the lingerie's wearing me, not the other way around. And though I adore pretty underthings (read: I don't do granny panties), I look at some corsets and garter belts and it all just strikes me as a little silly.

Is it just me? Do women actually enjoy getting a sandpaper wedgie? Is there really anything sexy about industrial-grade underwires, three-inch padding and a shove-up, squeeze-up, shoot-for-the-stars push-up?

Isn't he a little disappointed in the smoke and mirrors once it all comes off? And is there really any point, given that it's going to come off anyway?

I chatted with Liliana Mann, owner of lingerie boutique Linea Intima, and as it turns out, it's the thought that counts.

"Women like to feel loved and appreciated," says Mann. "Some men feel that Valentine's Day is about being sleazy and sexy, while women like to receive gifts that are beautiful, romantic and make her feel special. Remember, the gift is for her!"

Luckily, giving and getting aren't mutually exclusive.

Mann laughs, "Buy something that she'll really enjoy wearing for you. When you give a woman a beautiful gift that she loves, you'll get it back 10 times over, but when you buy her something she doesn't like, you'll also get it back — and not in the way you were hoping."

Check out Mann's other tips for a winning Valentine's:

- Avoid cheap lingerie made of polyester or stiff, scratchy lace.
- Find out her sizes (bra, underwear, dress, height and weight).
- The more info you can give the sales associate, the better.
- For a tough-to-please woman, gift cards are always a great option. Add a special card and flowers to show you care.

Sarah Francis is the style maven behind reallifeRunway.com. She also reports on the latest trends for White Oaks Mall, iVillage.ca and CityLine.

Census data shows Forest City slowdown

- Statistics Canada releases population counts gathered during 2011 census
- London growth rate lagging behind nation, province

ANGELA MULLINS
@METRONEWS.CA

London's growth may have cooled in the last five years.

But, hey, upping the head count during what's been called the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression ain't too shabby, officials said Wednesday.

"We still have a steady growth rate," said Paul Yeoman, a research analyst with the city's planning division. "(It's) not swinging up and down like some places."

That, plus the 13,756 people London picked up between 2006 and 2011 equates to a growth rate of 3.9 per cent — only slightly lower than the projected 4.5 per cent. From 2001 to 2006, London grew 4.7 per cent. The number was 3.3 per cent for 1996 to 2001.

Despite coming in below target, the city held the honour of being one of the country's most-populated cities — ranking 15th. The data reported Wednesday gives a high-level view of what's happening in the city, Yeoman said. Census numbers scheduled for release later this year will help paint a clearer picture.

More coverage {page 6-7}

KATIE NAUS/METRO

▶ A look at how the London area fared in the 2011 census compared to the 2006 census.

366,151
London's population according to 2011 census data.

352,395
London's population according to 2006 census data.

SEND SOME LOVE

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Two arrested for robbery

Police arrested two men in connection with a pharmacy robbery in London and a search in Sarnia that netted $48,000 worth of drugs.

Last Friday afternoon, a man fled the Commissioners Pharmacy at Commissioners Road West and Viscount Road, with money and narcotics in a grey or silver vehicle driven by a second suspect.

Saturday morning, London and Sarnia police searched an address on Colborne Road in Sarnia as part of the robbery investigation.

They found a large quantity of narcotics with a street value of $48,000. Police have charged 30-year-old Jeremy Crawford of London and 33-year-old Dario Gonzales of Sarnia with possession of stolen property and drug trafficking.

METRO

Woman dies in house fire

South Bruce OPP say they were called to the house that was fully engulfed in flames at 12:20 a.m. Wednesday.

Firefighters found the homeowner inside and pulled her out. Ila Wellman, 72, was pronounced dead at the hospital. AM980/AM980.CA

New home starts lower

New home starts were down in the London Census Metropolitan Area in January according to figures released by Canada Mortgage and Housing Corp.

Builders laid foundations for 95 homes compared to 243 in January 2011. METRO

Losing not in vocabulary

Knights are still ranked first overall in the latest CHL power rankings

The dog days of the schedule, a winter swoon, a stretch of bad luck — whatever you want to call it, every hockey team typically has a stretch where bounces go the wrong way and consecutive losses pile up.

Not so for the London Knights.

Through more than two-thirds of the 2011-12 campaign, London (38-11-0-1) has yet to lose consecutive games. When a loss does happen, no one in the locker-room wants to experience it again.

"I don't really have to say too much," said Knights captain Jarred Tinordi. "We hate losing — it's pretty evident after the game no one's happy about it. No one's giggling or laughing. It's a tough night for everyone."

The desire to rebound quickly after a loss starts at the top, with the coaching staff. Take, for example, the aftermath of a lopsided home loss to the Kitchener Rangers on Jan. 25.

"We had a really good video session with the guys after that 8-3 loss," said assistant coach Misha Donskov. "We showed them areas we needed to focus on for the next game — it came down to us not playing 60 minutes.

"But the guys were able to rebound, come back, and play a full 60 minutes the next night."

If a team accepts losing in the peaks and valleys of a season, then it can be become ingrained in the culture of the locker room — it can lead to a snowball effect.

The Knights are different.

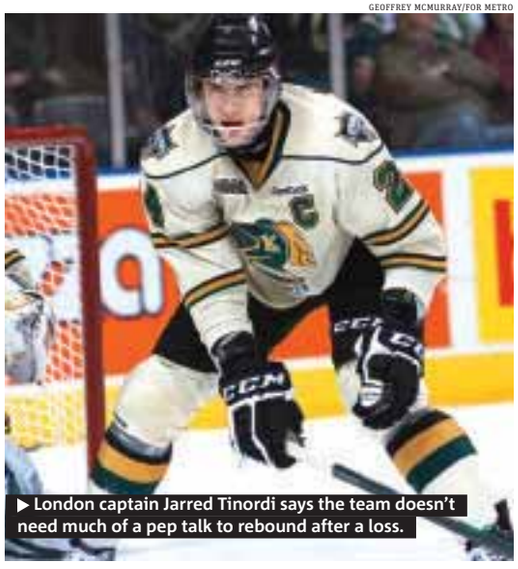
"The guys are pretty resilient," Donskov said. "We get knocked down and we come back swinging."

MIKE ARSENAULT

Friday pink

Don't forget to wear pink to Friday night's game to show support for breast-cancer awareness.

GEOFFREY MCMURRAY/FOR METRO



▶ London captain Jarred Tinordi says the team doesn't need much of a pep talk to rebound after a loss.

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OPP look into pictures taken of kids

Middlesex OPP is investigating two separate incidents of suspicious activity around area schools.

On Feb. 2 at about 11 a.m., a white male in his 20s with short dark hair was seen on Ilderton Road taking photographs near Valleyview Public School in Middlesex Centre. He reportedly got out of a silver four-door car and left in a white van.

About three hours later, an older white man with gray hair was seen on Parkhouse Drive taking photographs near Ecoe Central Public School in Southwest Middlesex. He left in a newer four-door silver Dodge pickup truck.

OPP say they're investigating to determine if any criminal activity is taking place. Any members of the public who may have seen any suspicious activity are asked to call Middlesex OPP at 1-888-310-1122.

Police advise parents to take this opportunity to remind your kids about rules of safety and contact with strangers. AM980/AM980.CA

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LIQUIDATION SALE

Some census highlights

FRED CHARTRAND/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Familes keep shrinking. When Ryan and Ann Solomon got married, they knew they wanted to keep their family small. The Solomons' two-kid family is typical among their circle of friends in Ottawa. Indeed, couples with just one or two children have become the norm in Canada, part of a trend of steadily dwindling family size that has been going on since the early 1960s.

They're not alone, according to the 2011 census. On its current trajectory, the numbers suggest, Canada's growth rate could be almost entirely dependent on immigration within 50 years. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Rural exodus. Canada was once a nation of farmers and small-town folk. But new census data shows the country's largest cities continue to be a magnet pulling in people from rural areas.

Fewer than one in five Canadians now live in rural areas, Statistics Canada reported in its 2011 census.

Just over six million people live outside of major metropolitan areas or mid-size Canadian cities. That represents only about 19 per cent of the population. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

PAWEL DWULIT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada's condo boom. When Debrah and Joel Weiss first moved to Toronto, they wanted nothing more than a proper house with a sprawling yard and lush garden. Four decades later, the retired couple is part of the condo craze that is reshaping Canada's urban lifestyle.

Experts say fundamental shifts in population and lifestyle — couples putting off marriage and children, workers rebelling against tiresome, traffic-clogged commutes — are pairing with a growing backlash against urban sprawl to spur one of the most pronounced and sustained real-estate booms in recent history. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Westward is where Canada

Canadians ride West but don't turn into cowboys ‘We are becoming more cosmopolitan, not really frontier anymore’: Newcomers centre director

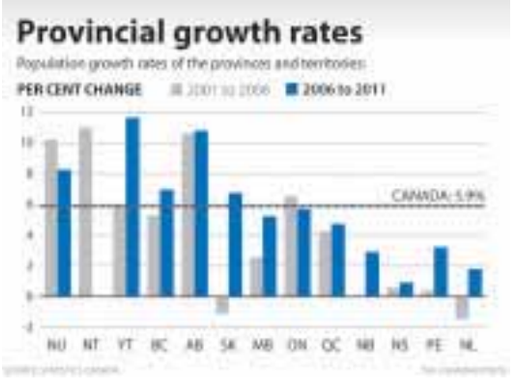
Jay Palter's impression of life in Alberta was typical for a lifelong Toronto resident: Wheat fields, oil derricks and dusty cowboys riding off into the sunset.

After three years of living in Edmonton, it feels more like riding towards a new dawn.

Nearly three years after saddling up his family and steering them across the country to Alberta's capital city, the 47-year-old social media strategist feels humbled and delighted by his decision to move to a place he happily calls diverse, multicultural — and home.

"In a way," Palter said, "being a westerner feels kind of like optimism about the future."

The sun is indeed rising on the West. Census numbers released Wednesday by Statistics Canada show that for the first time, more people live west of Ontario — in B.C., Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba — than east of it, in Quebec and Atlantic Canada.


Provincial growth rates
Population growth rates of the provinces and territories
PER CENT CHANGE
2001 to 2006
2006 to 2011
CANADA: 5.9%
NU NT YT BC AB SK MB ON QC NB NS PE NL

The numbers tell the story.

Alberta's ranks expanded at a rate of 10.8 per cent between 2006 and 2011, the highest of all the provinces and nearly twice the national average of 5.9 per cent. In Calgary, the growth rate was 12.6 per cent; in Edmonton, it was 12.1 per cent.

Growth in Manitoba doubled to 5.2 per cent, thanks largely to an influx of more than 64,000 immigrants, twice the number who arrived during the previous five-year census period.

"The centre of gravity is shifting," said Harry Hiller, a sociology professor at the University of Calgary, whose 2009 book, Second Promised Land, documents how migration to Alberta, fuelled in large measure by the bustling oil and gas industry, has transformed Canadian society.

Not surprisingly, the resulting shift in economic power has been a boon for the region's confidence, Hiller said. And when the relationship is a win-win for the region and its residents, the place can change a person in ways as subtle as an allegiance to a sports team or as profound as their personal politics.

"They really buy into the Alberta ideology," he said, "because they see how it's benefiting them."

The West's growing cultural influence in Canada is as apparent as the nearest television screen.

Corner Gas, Brent Butt's smash small-town Saskatchewan sitcom, is widely regarded as one of the most popular Canadian TV shows of all time. The show proved Canadians were thirsty for stories set in the West, said executive producer Virginia Thompson. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

DAVID VAN DYKE/PHOTO ILLUSTRATION

ho is headed

JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Prime Minister Stephen Harper looks up from dishing out pancakes at Stampede breakfast in Calgary on July 10, 2011.

POLITICAL, ECONOMIC FOCUS SHIFTS WEST

The plane zipping Prime Minister Stephen Harper westward this week with a gaggle of journalists and corporate executives could be seen as a sort of metaphor for Canada's new demographic — and political — reality.

On his way to China, Harper flew over his own political heartland, the region that makes trade with Asia his government's new imperative.

The latest census results show that for the first time, more Canadians now live west of Ontario than east of the province — 30.7 per cent compared to 30.6 per cent. Yukon had the biggest growth spurt at 11.6 per cent between 2006 and 2011, followed by Alberta at 10.8 per cent, nearly double the national average.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

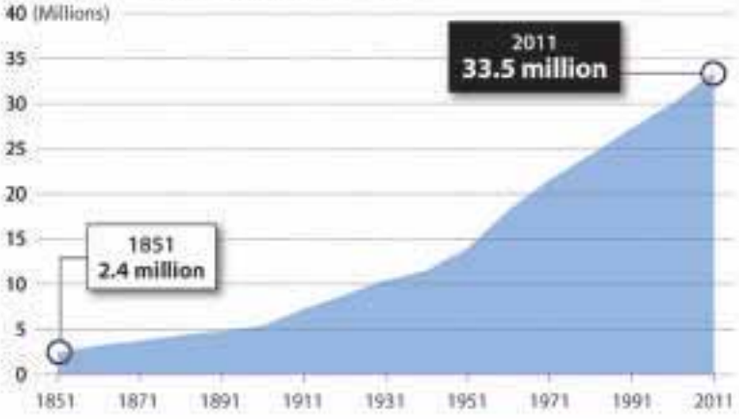
What's online

How has your area fared? Check out metronews.ca/census for more on the 2011 Census.

- **Interactive map.** Have you thought lately more people are hogging your street parking spots? Check out our interactive map to find out if your area has had a boost in population.
- **Pop quiz.** You already know the most recent census has a distinctly Western flavour, but how is the rest of that data sitting in your brain? Take our online quiz to find out.
- **Still not enough?** Go online for additional stories, videos and more.

Canada's population

A look at the Canadian population since 1851:



Metropolitan area growth

A look at the change in the population of Canada's Census Metropolitan Areas (CMAs):

International comparison

Canada's 2011 population of 33.5 million people is the smallest among the G8 countries.

PORN SCANDAL

Caught red-handed?

Three government ministers in the southern Indian state of Karnataka resigned Wednesday.

They were accused of watching a pornographic video during an assembly session.

The right-wing Bharatiya Janata Party, which rules Karnataka, ordered them to quit after local TV channels aired footage of them watching the allegedly pornographic clip.

The ministers denied they were watching pornography.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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CCTV VIA APTN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ China's newest heavyweight, Chun Chun, snoozes at a maternity hospital in Henan province.

Don't call him a little monster!

Chun Chun weighs in at 15.52 pounds ◗ Baby could set a China record

A mother in central China has given birth to a 15.52-pound baby.

The 29-year-old mother in Henan province gave birth to the boy in a cesarean operation, the state-run Tianjin Post said.

Delivery took just 20 minutes and both mother and the baby, named Chun Chun, are doing fine.

The paper said Chun Chun's parents are average size and there was nothing unusual about his mom's pregnancy or diet.

Guinness World Records says the heaviest newborn ever recorded was born to an Ohio woman in 1879 and weighed 23.7 pounds.

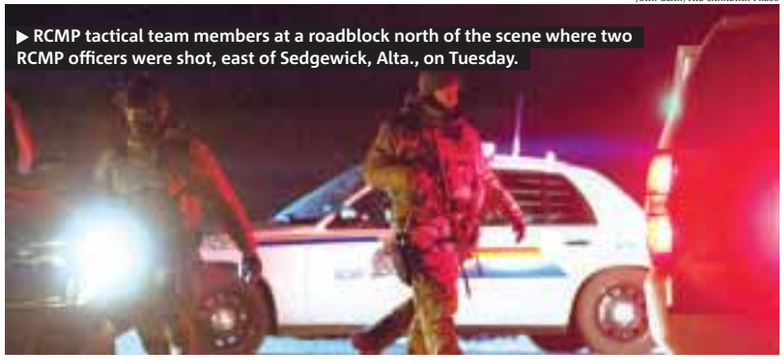
Chun Chun is possibly the largest newborn on record since 1949.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RCMP hunt for person of interest in Alberta case

- Sgt. Patrick Webb asks public not to approach Sawyer Clarke Robison
- Officials find unidentified body in home where deadly standoff took place

JOHN ULAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS



▶ RCMP tactical team members at a roadblock north of the scene where two RCMP officers were shot, east of Sedgewick, Alta., on Tuesday.

RCMP confirmed Wednesday that one man was found dead in a rural Alberta house where two Mounties were shot.

Sgt. Patrick Webb said a search was on for a 27-year-old man, Sawyer Clarke Robison, seen leaving the property after four officers from the detachment in Killam, about 160 kilometres southeast of Edmonton, arrived on Tuesday afternoon.

The officers went to the property as an ongoing investigation the small detachment had been involved in for the last week.

Gunfire erupted after they arrived and two of the officers, Const. Sheldon Shah and Const. Sidney Gaudette, were cut down.

Webb said Robison could be armed with long-barrelled weapons and should be considered a high risk. He warned members of the public not to approach him.

Police had said Tuesday that the public was not at risk and Webb reaffirmed that there is no risk to the public in a general sense.

Robison, the primary resident of the house, is not a suspect, but is considered a person of interest.

Police were also trying to determine how the dead man was killed, Webb said. The man was not identified. THE CANADIAN PRESS

MP's ousted baby allowed in House

A New Democrat MP has closed the case of the bounced baby, saying it was all a misunderstanding.

Sana Hassainia brought her three-month-old infant into the House of Commons this week just before a key vote, drawing the attention of delighted fellow MPs who began snapping pictures of mother and son.

When parliamentary pages brought her a message from the Speaker, Andrew Scheer, Hassainia thought she was being told to remove her child, Skander-Jack, from the chamber.

But she says Scheer later explained he was only concerned about cameras in the House, which are not allowed.

Hassainia said her first child — named after the late Jack Layton — was well-behaved, neither crying nor creating a disturbance.

Baby rules

- **Women MPs** from other parties asked Scheer to clarify the rules for infants in the Commons, including whether breastfeeding is allowed.
- **In 1998,** New Democrat MP Michelle Dockrill brought her seven-week-old baby, Kenzie James, into the Commons as she voted during proceedings.
- **MP Elizabeth May,** the Green party leader, said Wednesday that at the time Dockrill was asked not to come back with the infant.
- **Scheer promised** he would outline the rules surrounding infants.

In 1987, Liberal MP Sheila Copps became the first woman to give birth to a child while sitting as a federal member of Parliament. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Airlines adopt all-in pricing

Changes come before expected laws requiring more honest airfare ads

Canada's largest airlines have all launched all-inclusive pricing efforts that make it easier for passengers to determine the actual cost of flying.

Air Canada began on Wednesday to advertise prices that show the final cost of a ticket by combining the extra charges that have been left out in the past.

Porter Airlines, which flies regional planes mainly from its base at Toronto City Centre airport, said it would begin to advertise the total cost of a flight on Friday.

They join WestJet Airlines, which began to advertise all-in fares in January.

The new pricing structure will factor in all the fees, surcharges and taxes that customers wind up paying, which in some cases can virtually double the posted price of airline tickets.

The extra amounts include Nav Canada fees, airport-improvement charges, fuel surcharges, insurance and air-security charges.

Consumers also have to add taxes — GST or HST, and possibly sales tax or other taxes depending on the province or country.

Air Canada launched its new all-in fare policy as it unveiled a seat sale marking its 75th anniversary.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

▶ A WestJet plane takes off from the international airport in Calgary.

WestJet adds regional airline

WestJet confirmed Wednesday it will launch a low-fare, no-frills regional airline, intensifying competition in smaller domestic markets with rival Air Canada for business- and leisure-class travellers.

The carrier is expected to launch before the end of 2013. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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PENSION REFORM

Budget watchdog says OAS is sustainable

The demographic time bomb that will hit Canada once the baby boomers retire won't cause a fiscal crisis, the country's budget watchdog says.

In fact, Parliamentary Budget Officer Kevin Page says the federal government has enough fiscal room to enrich benefits for seniors and cut taxes, or increase spending elsewhere, without breaking the bank.

The new report from the PBO released Wednesday suggests that the debate over Old Age Security reform should be about priorities, not necessity as the Harper Conservatives have so far framed it.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper set off a political firestorm at a speech in Davos last month when he put pension reform on the table as part of the government's agenda to transform Canada's economy.

Since then, ministers have used terms like "crisis" to defend the need to tackle pension benefits as the number of seniors collecting OAS doubles over the next 20 years.

One option the government is looking at is to raise the age of eligibility for benefits to 67 from the current 65.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market moment

PRICES AS OF 5 P.M. WEDNESDAY

TSX	Dollar	Oil	Natural gas	Gold
+ 8.61 (12,521.02)	- 13¢ (100.39¢ US)	+ 30¢ US ($98.71 US)	$2.45 US (- 2¢ US)	$1,731.30 US (- $17.10 US)

Murdoch group still facing more lawsuits

Rupert Murdoch's News International has settled nearly all the cases against the company in the first wave of lawsuits for phone hacking by its journalists, with a new round of apologies and payouts announced Wednesday in a London court.

But a potentially damaging claim lodged by British singer Charlotte Church is still headed to trial later this month and a wave of new lawsuits — as many as 56 in all — is looming.

JOEL RYAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

▶ Charlotte Church

News International, a division of News Corp., has tried hard to keep phone hacking cases from going to trial, launching its own compensation program overseen by a respected former judge and paying out millions of pounds in all in out-of-court settlements for about 60 cases.

On Wednesday, lawyers announced that nine more lawsuits filed on behalf of about a dozen different people had been settled, including cases brought by comedian Steve Coogan and former soccer star Paul Gascoigne.

The lawsuit by Church, a former child singing prodigy, heads into court Feb. 28. Murdoch had the singer perform at his wedding when she was 13.

Church testified that Murdoch's newspapers had spent years tormenting her, often while she was just in her teens, blowing her credibility "to bits" and damaging her career.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Dell launches new VOIP app

Canadians frustrated with astronomical mobile service bills now have a free alternative in a new app being offered by Dell.

The company has partnered with Fongo to launch Dell Voice, a voice-over-Internet-protocol product that allows free calling almost anywhere within Canada over a Wi-Fi or mobile data connection, rather than eating into a user's allotment of mobile minutes.

Dell says one minute of talk time uses about one megabyte of data.

Users get their own free phone number to accept incoming calls and the service also includes free voice mail, caller ID and call waiting.

The only catch is that users will be exposed to ads while using the app.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Harper hails 'strategic importance' of China deal

The conclusion of 18 years of talks with the Chinese for an investment protection deal marks a historic step forward in Canada-China relations, the prime minister said Wednesday.

At the end of his first full day in China, Stephen Harper held up the foreign investment promotion and protection deal as the result of legwork to repair a bruised relationship between the two countries.

"My sense is the willingness of the Chinese to conclude this agreement indicates to me that they do put increasing strategic importance on two-way investment between our countries," he told reporters.

A foreign investment promotion and protection deal, or FIPA, gives foreign investors assurances they'll be treated the same as domestic companies and allows for arbitration at an international tribunal-type body in disputes.

DIEGO AZUBEL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Foreign Minister John Baird, left, speaks to Prime Minister Stephen Harper while standing next to Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao in Beijing on Wednesday.

Details of the agreement were not released. It still has to undergo legal review by both countries and be ratified before it can come into force. In Canada, that will include debate in the House of Commons.

The deal was one of several signed on Harper's first full day of a three-city tour of China, his second visit since being elected prime minister.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

ONLINE DATING FOR DUMMIES

HE SAYS ...

JOHN MAZEROLLE
METRO

The journal Psychological Science in the Public Interest has released a study of Internet dating with results that I think will be astonishing to anyone who lives in a cave at the bottom of the sea without Wi-Fi.

We media types went all first-love-breathless over the story anyway because it's rare we get to publish a science story people will click on that doesn't involve the words "primate sex."

However, if your IQ is larger than your birth weight and your technological savvy allows you to successfully use Lite-Brite, then you are likely to respond to everything in this dating study with an emphatic, "Well, duh."

"About a quarter of people met their partners over the Internet. In an online world where one of the most popular activities for years has been adorning cat photos with grammatically incorrect captions, I have a hard time seeing an online conversation as unusual."

Well, duh #1: Internet dating is popular.

About a quarter of people met their partners over the Internet. In an online world where one of the most popular activities for years has been adorning cat photos with grammatically incorrect captions, I have a hard time seeing an online conversation as unusual.

Well, duh #2: Men initiate more than women, and both sexes use an unhelpful "shopping" mentality that highlights looks and interests.

Some people cited this as proof that online dating is inferior. Some people have never dated offline, I guess.

Well, duh #3: Sites that claim to be able to match you based on chemistry are eBaloney.

But the smarmy old man seems so trustworthy! And all those happy couples standing in white rooms!

I do use a dating site with a matching algorithm, but it's not hard to tell a poor match. For instance, I avoid self-anthropologists who catalogue every instance of themselves looking into a bathroom mirror. I'm intimidated by that level of dedication.

Well, duh #4: It's better to meet in person than chat endlessly online.

OK, one thing did surprise me.

The researchers said meeting in person was better than meeting online, and I thought, "Well, you can do both."

But then I saw that the average e-dater spends 12 hours a week online looking for a mate. Here's where, "Well, duh" gives way to "WTF!" (That's a research term meaning Weighty Transformational Fact.)

That much time online seems particularly tentative in an era where a "date" is cup of coffee or, if you're jumping in with both feet, a walk.

Gosh, after 12 hours, you could have 23 hilarious rejection stories and one glorious success.

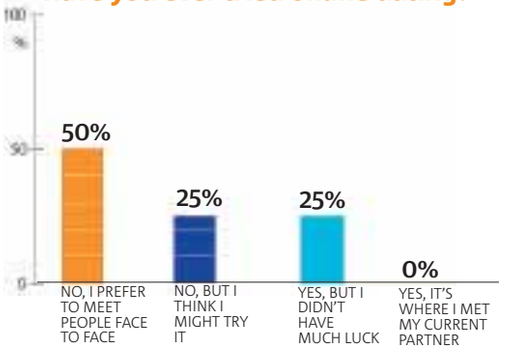
No matter where you meet it's important to get out there, meet face to face and ignore the nitpicking that might be keeping you from noticing the love of your life! Unless they don't know the proper usage of your and you're. In which case they're useless.

Well, duh.

Panel

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

Have you ever tried online dating?



Local tweets

- **@orpheumhs:** Good morning #LDNont! What's on the docket today?
- **@sqedmonton:** Today is talk about it day. Talk about mental illness. We need to as a community a province a country get serious & FIX IT.#LDNONT
- **@armstrngdouglas:** Happy Laugh and Get Rich Day!!! #ldnont #Happy
- **@TracieRyan_:** "that guy just got more attractive having a hockey stick in his hand" #memories #thingsshaysays #forwellhall #fanshawe
- **@jamiesonjames:** The poster sale is back? All the more reason to avoid the UCC. #westernu
- **@KaiNutch:** Now until friday is going to absolutely suck!! #WesternU, #Geomajorproblems!!!
- **@ellerich:** I just wrote 'Western University' for the first time. It's weird. #UWO #Western
- **@jeffslinky61:** We need a #government that works for the people not the corporate world! #ldnont #occupyldn #EMD #corporategreed #middleclass #stopharper

GEOFF CADDICK/PA/THELAST130.ORG

Daily Zoom

The Great Whale of London

'Whale' points to species' woes

LONDON. There she blows! An 11-metre "whale" floated down the Thames Wednesday to highlight the plight faced by the western gray, one of the world's most endangered whales. Numbering 130 strong with only 26 breeding females left, this whale species is "teetering on the edge of extinction," WWF says. MWN

"We're calling on the banks to take action and oppose the plans."

COLIN BUTFIELD
WWF'S HEAD OF CAMPAIGNS

THE WHALE WAS TOWED DOWN TO CANARY WHARF, ONE OF LONDON'S FINANCIAL CENTRES, TO CHAMPION WWF'S CALL ON EUROPE'S BIG PROJECT LENDERS, INCLUDING BNP PARIBAS AND CREDIT SUISSE, TO OPPOSE PLANS TO BUILD A THIRD RIG.

Oil rigs threaten whales' status

PETROLEUM. The campaign group claims oil and gas drilling threatens the western gray's main feeding ground. Two oil rigs exist near the whales' refuge off the coast of Sakhalin Island in the Russian Far East. Plans for a third rig were not included in the plan's original environmental assessment, WWF says. MWN

Remembering the real whale

HISTORY. It's been six years since Londoners were enthralled by the sight of a real whale in the Thames. The northern bottlenose swam upstream after apparently losing her way. Medics' rescue attempts were followed by millions worldwide, not least by the thousands who flocked to the banks of the Thames to watch. MWN

metro

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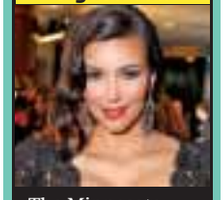
2 scene

Signed ball



The Minnesota Twins announced Tuesday it will auction off a baseball autographed by reality starlet Kim Kardashian and her ex-husband Kris Humphries. They signed the ball before a Twins game last July, when Humphries threw out the ceremonial first pitch.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Golden Collars nothing to sniff at; Hollywood's new award gets A-list attention

The future of filmmaking

Student short films screen at Museum London this weekend ◆ Kicks off Thursday

BACKSTAGE PASS

MILA PETKOVIC
METRO LONDON

It starts with the grainy textured sound of vinyl spinning and a revolving camera shot of a room packed floor-to-ceiling with records. Black Wax is a documentary about London record collectors, their intense love for vinyl and the sometimes-destructive nature of their obsession.

It is one of 12 juried student short films to be screened at Museum London this weekend as part of the event Domestic Arrivals: Festival of Canadian Film.

The short films will precede bigger-name feature films like Irvine Welsh's Ecstasy and Monsieur Lazhar.

Justin Chasty, the producer of Black Wax, is a film student at Western University.

"I know first-hand how record collectors can get obsessed. Sometimes you find yourself deciding how much money you are going to spend on records and spend on dinner that night."
JUSTIN CHASTY

JESS PEASE/FOR METRO LONDON

▶ Justin Chasty's record-collector documentary Black Wax will be screened at Museum London this weekend as part of Domestic Arrivals: Festival of Canadian Film.

His own love for records inspired him to make the documentary.

"When you pick up a record you are holding an artifact in your hands. There's artwork; you can read the liner notes and the sound is more organic. It's this package of a whole musical experience," says Chasty.

The film also explores the darker side of record collecting, and how it can affect personal relationships and even lead to financial troubles.

"I know first-hand how record collectors can get obsessed. Sometimes you find yourself deciding how much money you are going to spend on records and spend on dinner that night," says Chasty.

Black Wax will precede the Quebec feature film Le Vendeur (The Salesman).

Matt Rossoni, volunteer coordinator of the festival, is another student whose short film is being featured. His film 6 - 13/16 will play before The Whistleblower.

Rossoni's experimental black and white silent film, shot on 16 mm, blows the whistle on another subject: Representations of masculinity in advertising.

At one point in the film, Rossoni actually superimposes a shot of his own penis across flickering images of advertisements.

"I take a critical look at how our culture and advertising revolves around the idea of the penis. And I reject those commodified, projected images of advertising," says Rossoni.

Rossoni awaits the reaction to his film with anticipation. He thinks the festival is a great way for students to bring work into the public sphere.

"There's a lot more at stake when 100 people are watching your film," says Rossoni.

The festival starts Thursday at 7 p.m.

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Karl Lagerfeld addresses Adele controversy

German designer made waves when he was quoted as calling singer 'a little bit fat'

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

▶ Adele

▶ Karl Lagerfeld

Karl Lagerfeld has responded to the frenzy surrounding his recent comments about British singer Adele's weight — exclusively to Metro International.

Lagerfeld, who served as the global guest editor of this newspaper on Tuesday, told us: "I'd like to say to Adele that I am your biggest admirer. Sometimes when you take a sentence out of the article it changes the meaning of the thought. What I said was in relation to Lana Del Rey and the sentence has since been taken out of context from how it was originally published.

"I actually prefer Adele, she is my favourite singer and I am a great admirer of her. I lost over 30 kilos over 10 years ago and have kept it off. I know how it feels when the press is mean to you in regards to your appearance. Adele is a beautiful girl. She is the best. And I can't wait for her next CD."

Lagerfeld was quoted as calling the singer "a little bit fat" in response to a question about singer Lana Del Rey.

The controversial statement made headlines worldwide. KENYA HUNT

Brand keeps it classy?

An attorney for Russell Brand reportedly filed finalized divorce papers in Los Angeles this week, according to TMZ.

And although Brand and Katy Perry reportedly

▶ Russell Brand

did not sign a prenuptial agreement — meaning Brand could easily go after half of the fortune Perry earned during their 14-month marriage — sources say the British comedian has no intention of going after her money.

"This divorce is as amicable as it gets," one source tells the website. According to Forbes magazine, Perry earned $44 million between May 2010 and May 2011. METRO

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3 life

Rough stuff

Skin maintenance may sound a tad tedious for some men. Here we offer easy tips to make keeping moisturized easier this frosty season.

Make it easily accessible
Keep moisturizer in your gym bag, or even your car and use it often. By having it close at hand you won't be tempted to skip this crucial step to keeping skin feeling healthy, and may even inspire your friends to keep their skin resilient and flexible as well.

Focus on specific areas
Don't worry about moisturizing your entire body. If you are in a hurry, just make sure to target key areas such as your hands, face, elbows and knees. These areas tend to be drier than the rest of your body and may need some extra attention.
NEWS CANADA

Earlier launch pays off for Montreal Fashion Week

Gentlemen, the time to **drop trou** is now

What's under the pants is in the spotlight Men's undergarments are entering a new era

Some items in the fashion world are simply desires, and some are necessities. Where do men's undergarments fall? Increasingly, right in the middle.

There's a guaranteed market that needs to replenish supplies no matter what's happening in the economy. But innovation in style and technology has made boxers, briefs and undershirts, once an afterthought into a buzz-worthy category of men's clothes, to the forefront.

So much so that H&M debuted ads for its new undergarment collection by David Beckham during the Super Bowl and Jockey wasted no time signing football star Tim Tebow as its new spokesman.

It makes sense as a growth category, says Marshal Cohen, chief industry analyst with market research firm The NPD Group, but it took the right conditions to get on the fashion industry's radar: streamlined design, comfortable stretch fabrics, the idea that dressing starts at the base layer and that shabby-chic doesn't cut it anymore.

ARMANI EXCHANGE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ A/X Armani Exchange's seamless style briefs.

7%

The total men's underwear and undershirt market for 2011 in the U.S. was up more than seven per cent over the previous year, totalling $3.3 billion, stat numbers show.

Men, in general, aren't as interested in fleeting trends, he adds. They are, however, willing to buy an "evolved" product if they need to replace an old one. And, Cohen says, as has happened with smartphones and athletic apparel, sometimes men will trade up if they think there's genuine newness.

H&M must see the potential. The collaboration with Beckham launches with not only boxers, briefs and Ts, but also vests, pyjamas and long johns. Beckham said in a statement that it took him and his design team 18 months to come up with just the right initial styles.

"It all starts with underwear and you build your wardrobe from there," agrees Patrick Doddy, senior vice-president and brand director of A/X Armani Exchange. "It's the foundation to your style."

"Men have recognized they can't do shabby-chic and look like they just rolled out of bed."
MARSHAL COHEN, THE NDP GROUP

A/X's core, younger consumer isn't self-conscious about purchasing undergarments in the middle of a bustling store, he says. This fashion-savvy customer knows, just like his girlfriend or wife does, that flattering, stylish underwear only enhances his overall look.

"Men have recognized they can't do shabby-chic and look like they just rolled out of bed," says NPD's Cohen.

"They are looking for a job, or how to do their job better, or how to move ahead, and dressing is part of that." **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

H&M, ALASDAIR MCLELLAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ David Beckham sports his new collection of men's undergarments for H&M.

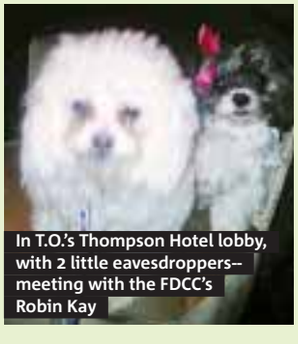
Jeanne Space

In this hectic modern world, Twitter has become a cool and succinct way of communicating. It allows me to be accessible, instantly speak my mind, and connects me with all kinds of people. Whether it's a fashion question, or you just want to comment on life's bigger picture, I'd love to hear from you.

@Jeanne_Beker:

Sussing out my crazy itinerary for NYFW! Leaving to cover the shows this wknd. What aspect of my reportage do you look forward to most?

- **@PrinceHarry13:** I'm dying for behind the scenes pics. Love to see who's wearing whom. Happy NYFW!
- **@Jeanne_Beker:** Okay! Will try to take lots of pics. Hopefully, the lighting gods will be with me!
- **@PrinceHarry13:** Also, trends. Gimme all the deets; prints, colour, tailoring, etc. Every cyclical flash of fashion's past.
- **@meninthistown:** your interaction with the designers, feeling more personal than other reporters.
- **@Jeanne_Beker:** Nothing like having had a personal history with those creative greats. Happy that experience matters in this biz.
- **@tyler_webb:** K I love it when you're holding the mic and walking in the madness. Feels so raw.
- **@Jeanne_Beker:** Yup! That"s where I'm really at home!! xx



In T.O.'s Thompson Hotel lobby, with 2 little eavesdroppers-- meeting with the FDCC's Robin Kay

TUNE INTO FASHION TELEVISION EVERY SUNDAY AT 5:30 P.M. (ET) ON CTV. JEANNE BEKER'S FINDING MYSELF IN FASHION (PENGUIN) IS AVAILABLE IN BOOKSTORES NATIONWIDE.

From wallflower to wall power

Decor expert Karl Lohnes adds a focal wall of colour to a monochromatic room

DESIGN CENTRE

KARL LOHNES
HOME@METRONEWS.CA

I'd like to add some colour to my bedroom but I am afraid to commit. I was thinking about painting just one wall. Are focal walls out of fashion?
D. Richardson
Markham, Ont.

BENJAMIN MOORE

▶ Stardust 2108-40 from Benjamin Moore Paints.

A painted focal wall was a popular way to add colour to a room in the 1980s.

One burgundy or hunter green wall might look a bit outdated these days as today's focal walls are all about adding drama with light or dark neutral colours rather than using colour.

Because you already have a monochromatic colour scheme I suggest keeping your colour choices for a focal wall limited to what is already in the room.

I would paint the wall behind the bed a deep version of a neutral brown colour like Benjamin Moore's Stardust 2108-40; it's got a bit of grey in it to keep the wall fashionably on trend.

CONTRIBUTED

▶ Add some drama to a room by painting the wall behind the bed with a deep, neutral paint colour.

Paint on some drama

A glossy paint finish would help add some drama and reflection from the window into the room. If the wall's finish is smooth and free of bumps or cracks then consider painting the wall with a high gloss paint.

Paint the underside and vertical part of the bulkhead running across the top of the wall; not painting the bulk will visually shorten the overall ceiling height in the room.

Accessorize appropriately

Bring a few darker-toned accessories in the room in order to blend your new wall; a dark throw at the end of the bed, a vase or some decorative pillows in a deep neutral colour will help the wall incorporate easily into your existing room.

Direct the focus

What wall do you paint the focal wall?

- **Bedroom:** The wall behind the headboard
- **Bathroom:** The wall with the mirror/lights
- **Living room:** The wall with the fireplace/or television wall
- **Foyer:** The wall the door backs onto

CRATE AND BARREL

Artura Vase, $88, Crate and Barrel

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Sherway Gardens
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Upper Canada Mall
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White Oaks Mall
Woodbine Centre
Yorkdale Mall

It's perfect for just the two of us

While many recipes are designed to serve four or more people, this one is perfect for couples to offers an alternative to typical Valentine's Day fare with this Surf and Turf Cobbler

Rocco DiSpirito

Surf and Turf Cobbler

MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

This recipe serves two.

This recipe is Rocco Dispirito's version of a trendy dish served in restaurants across North America — lobster pot pie. A typical pot pie like this will cost you around 680 calories and 46 grams of fat per serving. But the chef has downsized that to just 330 calories and six grams of fat.

Preparation:

1. In a large stockpot, bring 6 l (24 cups) of water to a boil. Set a bowl of ice water nearby. Submerge lobster in boiling water, then return water to a boil. Cook lobster for 4 minutes, adding asparagus to water for last 2 minutes. Use a slotted spoon to transfer asparagus to ice water to cool for 2 minutes, then transfer to a kitchen towel to dry. Remove lobster from water and place on a sheet pan. Let cool until easy to handle.

2. Heat a medium non-stick skillet over high. Season beef with salt and pepper, then spritz pan with cooking spray and add beef to pan. Cook for 1 to 2 minutes or until outsides are well browned and centres are rare, turning once. Transfer beef to a plate and set aside.

3. Drain beets, reserving 50 ml (1/4 cup) of the liquid. Cut two-thirds of the drained beets (about 250 ml/1 cup) into bite-size pieces (save remaining beets for another use). Add half of the beet pieces to a blender along with the 50 ml (1/4 cup) of reserved liquid. Cover and blend until smooth.

4. Add 16 pumps of butter spray and cover and blend again just until combined. Pour pureed beets into a medium bowl and add remaining chopped beets. Add asparagus to beet mixture along with cooked beef cubes and fresh tarragon.

5. Heat oven to 200 C (400 F). Remove meat from lobster and cut into bite-size pieces. Add to beet mix and stir until well combined. Season with salt and pepper. Spoon mixture evenly into a 1-l (4-cup) oven-safe glass bowl or souffle dish.

6. In a medium bowl, mix pancake mix and water. Drop dough into 6 small mounds over lobster mixture. Bake for 15 minutes or until top is browned and filling is heated through. Remove and top with horseradish. **ROCCO DISPIRITO, AUTHOR OF THE NOW EAT THIS AND NOW EAT THIS! DIET COOKBOOKS/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Ingredients:

- 625-g (1 1/4-lb) live lobster
- 125 g (4 oz) fresh asparagus spears (12 to 16 spears, depending on thickness), trimmed and cut into 2.5-cm (1-inch) pieces
- 90 g (3 oz) beef tenderloin, cut into 8 cubes
- Salt and black pepper
- 1 can (398 ml/14 oz) red beets with liquid
- 16 pumps butter spray
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) tarragon
- 150 ml (2/3 cup) heart-smart pancake and baking mix (such as Bisquick)
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) water
- 10 ml (2 tsp) prepared horseradish

F. Scott Fitzgerald's
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Weekly Cookbook

If you're thinking of cooking a special Valentine's Day dinner for your sweetie, look not further than Fresh & Healthy Cooking for Two by Ellie Topp and Marilyn Booth.

It features recipes with fresh and local ingredients. All the recipes are within Canada's Food Guide suggestions for promoting health and reducing risk of chronic illness.

Main dishes such as Shrimp Fettuccine with Fresh Basil Pesto and Zucchini, and Grilled Trout with Fresh Dill and Chives, come with ideas for healthy sides.

Woeful outside Winnipeg

Jets take ugly road record into Washington, trailing division-leading Capitals by four points

MARIANNE HELM/GETTY IMAGES FILE

▶ Jim Slater, left, congratulates Chris Thorburn on his goal Tuesday night in Winnipeg.

It's a small road trip — two games in three days — but the Winnipeg Jets know how important it is in keeping their NHL playoff hopes alive.

"It's getting that time when every game is going to be important for us," says Bryan Little, who scored the winner in Tuesday night's 2-1 victory over the Toronto Maple Leafs (28-19-6).

The Jets (24-24-6) have played well at home, although lately they have slipped a little in Manitoba. Their home record sat 10th in the league as of Wednesday, after sitting at No. 5 at the end of 2011.

They never got off the ground away from the MTS Centre and Winnipeg's 9-16-4 road record must improve, and soon.

Coach Claude Noel laid it out at the beginning of the week, after returning from a disappointing six-game trip where they won only two — one in overtime and another in a shootout.

"If you play three games a week, you have to win two of three," he said. "That's the winning percentage you've got to get to, you can't go to .500 — .500 doesn't cut it."

And, as the games start to pile up, the chance to make up those missed opportunities diminish.

There are those who suggest the Jets just don't have the offensive talent needed to do much better than they did when they were in Atlanta last season.

Scoring is certainly something that doesn't come easy. They sat 23rd in the 30-team league as of Wednesday in the goals-for column.

Luckily Evander Kane, the Jets' best sniper, is back and says he's feeling great after leaving the lineup in mid-January with a concussion.

Noel has been preaching teamwork to make up for a lack of breakout talent and the team's tight-checking performance against Toronto is evidence of the players are listening.

"We have a two-week window here where we have to make things happen. It's really hard at this time of year to make up points when you get too far behind."
JETS COACH CLAUDE NOEL

And no matter how bad things get in the Winnipeg locker-room, doom and gloom never takes much of a foothold.

"All season long we staying positive, I think that's the way we should be," says goaltender Ondrej Pavelec, whose steady hand has kept Winnipeg close to a playoff spot.

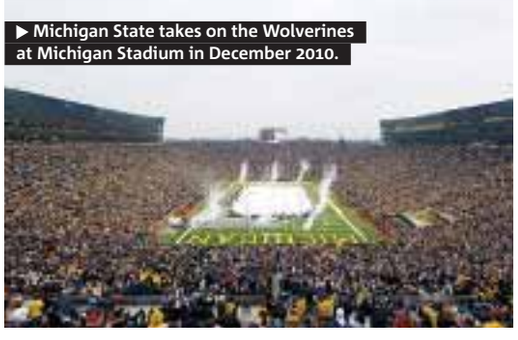
"We have to improve the road record. It's going to start tomorrow and the next game."

It's looking more and more like winning the Southeast may be the best way for the Jets to make the playoffs. Washington recently took over the division lead from Florida, who fell to ninth place, just above the Jets.

"If we're going to make this push we've got to improve our road record," said Chris Thorburn, who scored his second of the season on Tuesday. "(There's) no bigger of a game than against Washington. They're just a couple ahead of us."
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Leaf-Wings set for Winter Classic: Source

LEON HALIP/GETTY IMAGES FILE



▶ Michigan State takes on the Wolverines at Michigan Stadium in December 2010.

The Detroit Red Wings and Toronto Maple Leafs could draw a record crowd for hockey in the NHL's next Winter Classic.

A source confirmed Wednesday the teams would officially be named as participants in the Jan. 1, 2013 game at a press conference Thursday.

The Leafs and Red Wings will face one another at Michigan Stadium, where the current attendance record was set in a game between the Wolverines and rival Michigan State on Dec. 11, 2010. They drew an attendance of 104,173, setting a Guinness World Record.

In addition to Michigan Stadium, other games and events will be held at Comerica Park in Detroit.

News of the Leafs-Red Wings matchup has been rumoured for weeks, but the deal was only finalized Wednesday. During a special meeting, the University of Michigan Board of Regents authorized athletic director Dave Brandon to seek a contract with the NHL to host the event.

The NHL has offered to pay up to $3 million US for a license to use the iconic college football stadium, according to the recommendation approved by the board.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

4 sports

Quoted

"Even when things aren't going so well I think, just for mental health reasons, you need to be able to have some fun."

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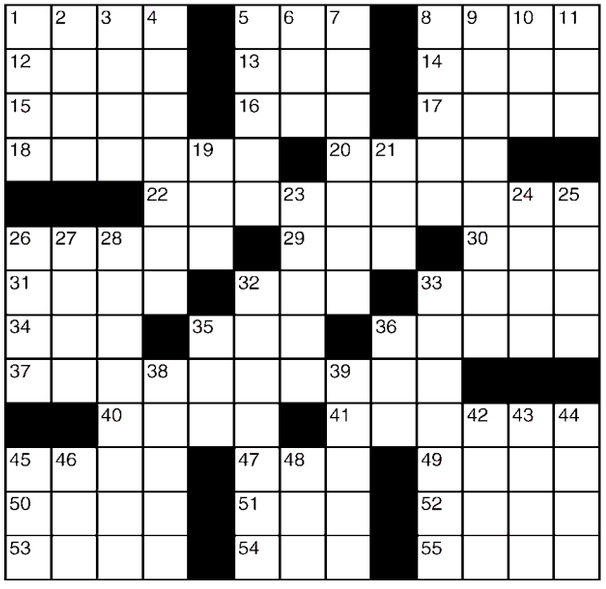

Across

1 Oil cartel acronym
5 Spring mo.
8 Hotel employee
12 21-Down builder
13 Witness
14 Black, in verse
15 — Minor
16 Depressed
17 Carvey or Delany
18 Thwart
20 Primary
22 Donna Summer hit
26 Suitor
29 Tibetan beast
30 Table scrap
31 Weaponry
32 Lustrous black
33 Fit of peevishness
34 "Golly!"
35 Wok, e.g.
36 Lariat
37 No longer drinking
40 KFC additive
41 Latest information
45 "The Naked Maja" painter
47 Kimono sash
49 Apollo 11's goal
50 Once, once
51 Greek consonants
52 Opposed to
53 Illicit stimulant, for short
54 Storm center
55 Require

Down

1 Responsibility
2 Harbor
3 Uncomplicated
4 Soft, pliant leather
5 Plus
6 Pod occupant
7 Beef, e.g.
8 TV, newspapers, etc.
9 Leaves in the lurch
10 Lithium- — battery
11 "CSI" evidence
19 Hostel
21 See 12-Across
23 Laughing critter
24 Rainbow
25 Director Preminger
26 Palm starch
27 Small songbird
28 February birthstone
32 Mandible
33 Sleep-inducing visitor
35 Apiece
36 Prune
38 Moor
39 False front
42 Top-notch
43 Carry
44 Oklahoma city
45 Jewel
46 Raw rock
48 Purchase

▶ Yesterday's answer

Sudoku

	1		3		6		4	
	3	8				7	5	
4								2
		5	9	6	1	4		
		3	5	7	4	2		
3								8
	4	2				1	9	
	9		7		8		6	

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

8	4	1	5	6	9	3	7	2
9	2	7	1	8	3	4	5	6
6	3	5	4	7	2	9	8	1
2	8	4	9	1	6	7	3	5
1	9	3	7	2	5	6	4	8
5	7	6	3	4	8	2	1	9
4	5	9	6	3	1	8	2	7
7	1	2	8	9	4	5	6	3
3	6	8	2	5	7	1	9	4

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Real words
I hope you're feeling my feelings as before and it will remind you of how there's always someone thinking of you and no matter what happens.
REAL FEELING

tooottoot,
i needa study buddy?
PAPA

Beals
Surprising yet wonderous night with all the lights aglow how i think of you my love how i wish to be where you are fir you to hold me console me on this beautiful night where are you my love why have you not yet come to walk with me talk with me how i miss thee my love on this wonderous night
NIGHTTIME

Smile, someone is thinking about you right now.
HAPPY SOUL

Today's horoscope

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♈ Aries March 21-April 20
If your sixth sense tells you that something is not quite right today, you would be wise to listen.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21
Cosmic activity in the career area of your chart means it's time to move up a gear. It's OK to be ambitious.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21
Your opinions seem to be going through changes and it may not be an entirely comfortable situation.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 You want to prove that you're tough enough to mix it up with your rivals. But don't make enemies of those who should be friends.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23
Sit back and let those who feel they have something to prove make decisions. You have nothing to prove.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22
If you work too hard now, you may regret it over the weekend. You don't have to do everything yourself, you know. Let others help.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23
Focus on creative activities, especially if you've been working your socks off for other people recently.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22
Be prepared to tell someone in a position of authority that you won't be rushed.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 It's not often you kick up a fuss but today, you might have to. No one can tell you how to feel.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20
The planets indicate that it will be quite easy to boost your earning power over the next few days.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18
There's nothing you can't do and there is no one you can't impress. Make your talents recognized.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20 You will achieve more in the long-term if you make an effort to co-operate with a colleague. You can both be winners. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Caption contest

CLEMENT ALLARD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CZAREK SOKOLOWSKI/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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